

Mar Asia

A number of priceless paintings, crosses and inscriptions written in an Ethiopian language survive on the walls of the Mar Asia cave, located high up the southern slope of the valley. The failing plaster is in danger of becoming detached and obliterating vital historic evidence. During a rescue expedition in 2010 these plaster layers were consolidated and secured.



The Greek Orthodox Cathedral of St George in Beirut

The cathedral in Beirut's city centre features archaeological remains dating from various periods. The oldest can be found beneath the floor of the present-day building, which conceals mosaics as well as the relict walls and pillars of the earlier, medieval, church. Fragments of painted decoration probably dating from the 13th century were discovered beneath several later plaster layers on one of the pillars and subsequently secured. Standing figures can be seen in outline on one face of the pillar, whilst the clearly visible lower portion of a robed figure standing between two columns can be seen on its opposite face.

Beiteddine



Fragments of extant polychrome decoration during the course of preventative conservation measures.



The remains of the vast basilica at Jiyeh include around one hundred separate stone blocks adorned with polychrome representations of animals, plants, partially extant inscriptions and crosses. They are currently housed at Beiteddine Palace. In 2009 Polish conservators secured this painted decoration. It is planned to carry out further work and to put some of the stone blocks on display inside the palace.

